

Application No. 09/488,568
Amendment dated: November 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 7, 2004

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REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-48 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 4, 15, 16, 18, 29, 38, and 48 are amended. Claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

REASONS FOR ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

At the outset, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the amendments to the claims automatically place the application in condition for allowance.

In the alternative, if the Examiner does not agree that this application is in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purpose of appeal. This Amendment was not presented at an earlier date in view of the fact that the Examiner has just now presented new grounds of rejection in this Final Office Action.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(A)

Claims 1-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilgic et al. (U.S. 6,580,906) in view of Lu et al. (U.S. 5,999,813). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

AMENDMENTS TO INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1, 15, 29, AND 48

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, each of independent claims 1 and 15 is amended herein to recite a combination of method steps directed to a method for handling call requests, including

providing a private network including a plurality of private branch exchanges, the private branch exchanges being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched telephone network, and being connectable to but not being compatible with a wireless communication network;

providing a plurality of controllers having computer integration technology on the private network;

coupling one of the controllers to each of the plurality of private branch exchanges and to the wireless communication network, each of said controllers being capable of instructing the corresponding private branch exchange to which it is coupled to execute a proper protocol via computer telephony integration;

receiving a request at one of the controllers to complete a call originating from a wireless communication device to a central office;

executing a program in the controller corresponding said one of the private branch exchanges for determining whether or not a predetermined condition has been met, and if the

predetermined condition has been met, determining said proper protocol for processing said request,

thereby enabling completion of said call originating from the wireless communication device to the central office.

In addition, independent claim 29 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a system for handling call requests, including a private network having plurality of private branch exchanges being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched telephone network, and being connectable to but being not compatible with a wireless communication network, thus preventing the private branch exchanges from communicating with the wireless communication network,

the private network also having a plurality of controllers having computer integrated technology, each of said controllers being coupled to one of the private branch exchanges and the wireless communication network and for determining whether or not a predetermined condition has been met, instructing a corresponding one of the plurality of private branch exchanges with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network, and

if the predetermined condition has been met, enabling each of the private branch exchanges to communicate outgoing and incoming calls between the wireless communications network and the public switched network.

Further, independent claim 48 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a system for handling call requests, including a private network having an adjunct controller coupled to a private branch exchange, the adjunct controller also being coupled to a wireless communication network,

the private branch exchange being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched telephone network, and being connectable to but not compatible with the wireless communication network,

the adjunct controller having computer telephony integration technology for executing a program in order to determine whether or not a predetermined condition has been met, instructing the private branch exchange with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network, and

if the predetermined condition has been met, enabling the private branch exchange to communicate between the wireless communications network and the public switched telephone network, so that calls originating at a central office may be completed to wireless devices on the wireless communications network, and other calls originating at the wireless devices on the wireless communication may be completed at the central office.

Support for the above-described features can be found for example, on page 6, line 15 to page 7, line 10 of the specification as originally filed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of method steps and elements as set forth in each of independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Bilgic et al., and Lu et al.

The Examiner concedes that Bilgic et al. fail to disclose the step of coupling one of a plurality of controllers having computer integration technology to each of a plurality of private branch exchanges, each of the controllers being capable of instructing a private branch exchange with which it is coupled with regard to a communication between a wireless communication network and a public switched network. Moreover, Bilgic et al. column 5, lines 36-38 merely disclose a wireless communication unit 106 for routing outbound calls.

Regarding Lu et al., the Applicants respectfully submit that FIGS. 3B, 4B, 5B, and 6B of this document merely disclose a cPBX 256 and wired PBX interface 352 that are part of a wireless network 450.

Nowhere is there any hint in either of Bilgic et al. or Lu et al. of a private network having plurality of private branch exchanges being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched telephone network, and being connectable to but being not compatible with a wireless communication network, thus preventing the private branch exchanges from communicating with the wireless communication network,

the private network also having a plurality of controllers having computer integrated technology, each of said controllers being coupled to one of the private branch exchanges and the wireless communication network and for determining whether or not a predetermined

condition has been met, instructing a corresponding one of the plurality of private branch exchanges with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network, as set forth in the present invention.

Further, nowhere is there any hint in either of Bilgic et al. or Lu et al. of a controller (or adjunct controller) on a private network determining whether or not a predetermined condition has been met, instructing a corresponding one of the plurality of private branch exchanges with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network, and

if the predetermined condition has been met, enabling each of the private branch exchanges to communicate outgoing and incoming calls between the wireless communications network and the public switched network.

The Applicants respectfully submit that it is improper to conclude that the wireless PBX and wired PBX interface in the wireless network of Lu et al. can be combined with the disclosure of Bilgic et al. to teach the present invention.

Not every wireless communication network is compatible with every private branch exchange. To address this problem, the present invention provides a novel capability enabling communication between a wireless communication network and a public switched network, even when the private branch exchange and the wireless communication network are not compatible with each other. The combination of Bilgic et al. and Lu et al. fail to teach or suggest this feature.

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Therefore, in view of the amendments and arguments described above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of method steps and elements as set forth in each of independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Bilgic et al. and Lu et al. .

Therefore, independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 3, 4, 16, 18, and 38 are amended to correct minor informalities.

Each of the dependent claims is in condition for allowance due to its dependency from an allowable independent claim, or due to the additional novel limitations set forth therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicants respectfully petition for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application. The required fee of \$430.00 is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1602.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 205-8000.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1602 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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